

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a network of components, including storage devices and digital data processors, comprising:

maintaining a first representation of a topology of the storage devices and digital data processors in the network and generating one of a first and second [[an]] one of a first and second event notification notifications indicative of a change to the topology with respect to the network;

maintaining a second representation of the topology and responding to the received first or second event notification by:

accessing the first representation;

determining whether there is a discrepancy between the received first or second event notification and an attribute of any of the first and second representations; and

selectively disregarding the first event notification or recovering the second representation from one or more attributes of the first representation in response to determining the discrepancy with respect to the first event notification, wherein disregarding the first event notification comprises taking no action to synchronize the first and second representations in response to the first event notification; and

recovering the second representation from one or more attributes of the first representation in response to determining the discrepancy with respect to the second event notification.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the recovering operations include at least one of the operations comprising:

clearing the second representation and rebuilding that representation from attributes of the first representation;

comparing the first and second representations in whole or in part, and copying from the first representation to the second representation attributes missing from the latter, while any of deleting or marking as missing attributes in the second representation indicative of components present in the second representation but not in the first representation; and

copying from the first representation to the second representation one or more attributes indicative of any of (a) a component or relationships represented by an attribute in connection with which the discrepancy occurred, and (b) a component or relationship in a region represented by an attribute in connection with which the discrepancy occurred.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein ~~determining the discrepancy that results in selectively disregarding the first event notification comprises determining an the first event notification is~~ indicative of addition of a new component to the topology and an attribute of the first representation indicative of absence of the new component.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, ~~further comprising: determining an wherein the second event notification is~~ indicative of addition of a new component to the topology and an attribute of the first representation indicative of absence of the new component[[;]], and further comprising:

determining whether the new component is in the second representation in response to determining that the new component is absent from the first representation; and;

updating the second representation to indicate that component's status is suspect in response to determining that the new component is in the second representation.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein ~~determining the discrepancy that results in performing the recovery operation on the second representations comprises determining an the second event notification is~~ indicative of addition of a new component to the topology and an attribute of the first representation indicative of the presence of the new component.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in selectively disregarding the first event notification comprises

determining an event notification indicative of addition of a relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of the first representation indicative of absence of that relationship.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in performing the recovery operation on the second representations comprises determining [[an]] the second event notification indicative of addition of a relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicative of the presence of that relationship.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in selectively disregarding the first event notification comprises determining [[an]] the event notification indicative of addition of a relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicative of the absence from the topology of one of the components to that relationship.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in performing the recovery operation on the second representations comprises determining [[an]] the second event notification indicative of modification of an attribute of a component of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicative of the absence from the topology of that component.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in performing the recovery operation on the second representations comprises determining [[an]] the second event notification indicative of modification of an attribute of a component of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicating presence of representation of that component in the second representation but its absence from the topology.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in selectively disregarding the first event notification comprises determining [[an]] the first event notification indicative of a missing component of the topology

and an attribute of the second representation indicative of the absence of that component from the topology.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in selectively disregarding the first event notification comprises determining [[an]] the first event notification indicative of a missing component of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicates inclusion of that component in the second representation, but the absence of that component from the topology.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in selectively disregarding the first event notification comprises determining [[an]] first event notification indicative of a missing relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicative of absence of that relationship in the second representation.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the discrepancy that results in selectively disregarding the first event notification comprises determining [[an]] the first event notification indicative of a missing relationship in the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicates inclusion of that relationship in the second representation, but the absence of that component from the topology.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the recovering of the second representation is performed in response to the determined discrepancy comprising the first representation not reflecting the change indicated by the second event notification and the second representation reflecting the change indicated by the second event notification.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the first event notification is disregarded in response to the determined discrepancy comprising the first representation and second representation not reflecting the change indicated by the first event notification.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the second event notification indicates that a device was added to the first representation, wherein the recovering of the second representation is performed in response to the determined discrepancy comprising the first representation not reflecting the added device and the second representation reflecting the added device, and wherein the first event notification is disregarded in response to the determined discrepancy comprising the first representation and the second representation not reflecting the added device.

30. (New) A method of managing a network of components, including storage devices and digital data processors, comprising:

maintaining a first representation of a topology of the storage devices and digital data processors in the network and generating one of a first and second one of a first and second event notifications indicative of a change to the topology with respect to the network;

maintaining a second representation of the topology and responding to the received first or second event notification by:

accessing the first representation;

determining whether there is a discrepancy between the received first or second event notification and an attribute of any of the first and second representations; and

selectively disregarding the first event notification in response to determining the discrepancy with respect to the first event notification, wherein disregarding the first event notification comprises taking no action to synchronize the first and second representations in response to the first event notification, wherein the determined discrepancy resulting in disregarding the first event notification comprises at least one of:

the event notification is indicative of addition of a new component to the network and an attribute of the first representation is indicative of absence of that component from the topology;

the event notification is indicative of addition of a relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of the first representation is indicative of absence of that relationship from the topology;

the event notification is indicative of addition of a relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of a second representation is indicative of the absence from the topology of one of the components to that relationship;

the event notification is indicative of a missing component of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicative of the absence of that component from the topology;

the event notification is indicative of a missing component of the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicates representation of that component in the second representation, but the absence of that component from the topology;

the event notification is indicative of a missing relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of the second representation is indicative of an absence of that relationship in the second representation; and

the event notification is indicative of a missing relationship in the topology and an attribute of the second representation indicates inclusion of that relationship in the second representation, but the absence of that component from the topology; and

recovering the second representation from one or more attributes of the first representation in response to determining the discrepancy with respect to the second event notification.

31. (New) A method of managing a network of components, including storage devices and digital data processors, comprising:

maintaining a first representation of a topology of the storage devices and digital data processors in the network and generating one of a first and second one of a first and second event notifications indicative of a change to the topology with respect to the network;

maintaining a second representation of the topology and responding to the received first or second event notification by:

accessing the first representation;

determining whether there is a discrepancy between the received first or second event notification and an attribute of any of the first and second representations; and

selectively disregarding the first event notification in response to determining the discrepancy with respect to the first event notification, wherein disregarding the first event notification comprises taking no action to synchronize the first and second representations in response to the first event notification; and

recovering the second representation from one or more attributes of the first representation in response to determining the discrepancy with respect to the second event notification, wherein the determined discrepancy resulting in the recovering comprises at least one of:

the event notification is indicative of addition of a new component to the topology and an attribute of the first representation is indicative of the presence of that component;

the event notification is indicative of addition of a relationship between components of the topology and an attribute of the second representation is indicative of the presence of that relationship;

the event notification is indicative of modification of an attribute of a component of the topology and an attribute of the second representation is indicative of the absence from the topology of that component; and

the event notification is indicative of modification of an attribute of a component of the topology and an attribute of the second representation is indicative of inclusion of that component in the second representation but its absence from the topology.